

DEC. 3. 2004 4:12PM

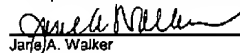
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PATENT

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Technology Center 1600, Attention: Examiner Dameron L.
Jones, at centralized facsimile number (703) 872-9306 on


Jarle A. Walker
December 3, 2004
Date

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Achilefu et al.
Serial No.: 09/757,332
Filed: January 9, 2001
Art Unit: 1616
Confirmation No.: 5505
Examiner: Jones, Dameron Levest
Title: **HYDROPHILIC CYANINE DYES**
Atty Docket: MRD-66

Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

December 3, 2004

Mail Stop AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE

Applicants respond to the Office Action dated September 1, 2004 as
follows.

Remarks begin on page 2 of this paper.

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